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REMARKS

HPTB

Claims 23-48 have been added. Claims 5, 8, 13, 15, and 19-22 have been amended. No claims have been canceled. Hence, Claims 1-11 and 13-48 are pending in the application.

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 and 13-22 have been allowed in the Notice of Allowance mailed April 20. 2006. Claims 23-48 are new. The amendments and the new claims do not add new matter to the subject application.

Claims 5, 8, 13, 15, and 19-22 have been amended to provide for proper antecedent basis.

New Claims 23-26 and 27-30 include features similar to the features of Claims 5-8, except in the context of an apparatus. Thus, new Claims 23-26 and 27-30 are allowable for the same reasons as Claims 5-8.

New Claims 31-33 and 34-36 include features similar to the features of Claims 9-11. except in the context of an apparatus. Thus, new Claims 31-33 and 34-36 are allowable for the same reasons as Claims 9-11.

New Claims 37-39 and 40-42 include features similar to the features of Claims 13-15, except in the context of an apparatus. Thus, new Claims 37-39 and 40-42 are allowable for the same reasons as Claims 13-15.

New Claims 43-45 and 46-48 depend from independent Claims 17 and 18, respectively, and thus include each and every feature of the corresponding base claim. For this reason, new Claims 43-45 and 46-48 are allowable for the same reasons as Claims 17 and 18.

Thus, all pending claims are allowable over the art of record, and for this reason allowance of all pending claims is most earnestly solicited.

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II. CONCLUSION

Entry of the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE), and reconsideration of the subject application, is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

A petition for extension of time, to the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed, is hereby made. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge all applicable fees to our .

Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: August 1, 2006

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